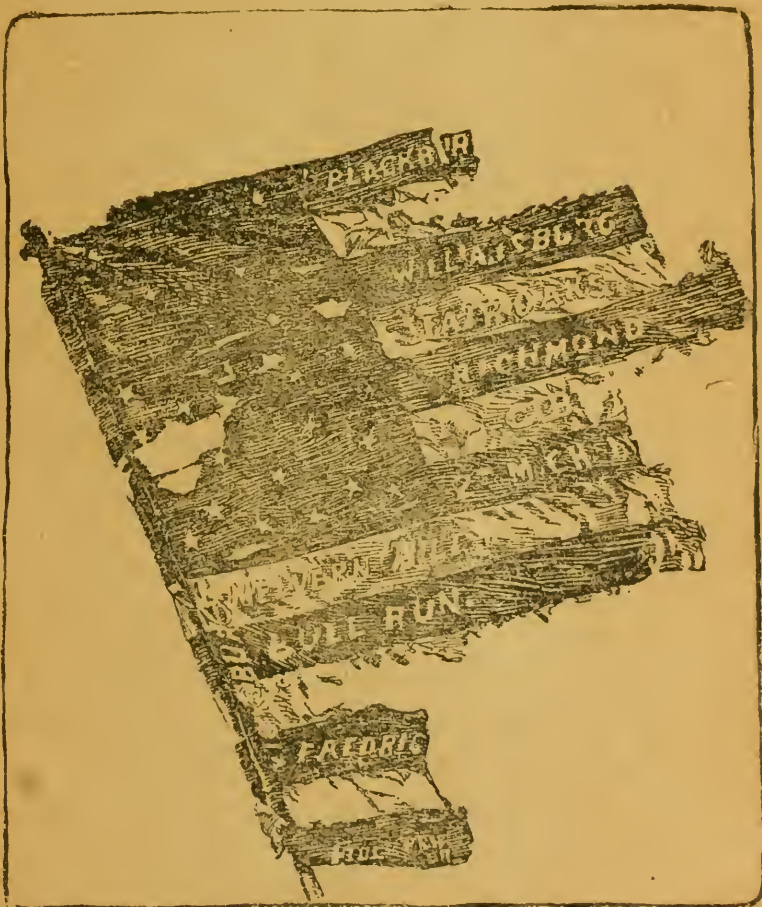


Incidental Flag History

Second Michigan Infantry

1861-5.



BY COL. FREDERICK SCHNEIDER

INCIDENTAL HISTORY

OF THE

FLAGS AND COLOR GUARD

OF THE

WINFIELD S. SLY

SPECIAL AIDE FOR PATRIOTIC EDUCATION AND MILITARY
INSTRUCTION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN, G. A. R.

LANSING, MICHIGAN.

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10



INCIDENTAL HISTORY

OF THE

FLAGS AND COLOR GUARD

OF THE

SECOND MICHIGAN VETERAN
VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

1861-5

—BY—

COL. FREDERICK SCHNEIDER

WHO ENLISTED AS A PRIVATE IN APRIL, 1861 AND WAS HONORABLY DISCHARGED IN
AUGUST, 1865, AS LAST COMMANDER OF THE REGIMENT

AWARDED FIRST PRIZE IN THE FLAG HISTORY CONTEST
1905.

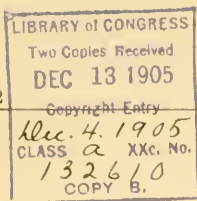
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INTRODUCTORY.

January 1st, 1905, Winfield Scott Sly, Special Aide, Department of Michigan G. A. R., for Patriotic Instruction and Military Training in Public Schools, offered a prize of twenty dollars in gold for the best incidental history of a regimental flag, for use in public schools and otherwise, to be written by a comrade who carried or followed it. The offer was extended to all old soldiers who belonged to the Union Army.

Pursuant to this proposition, manuscripts were submitted. These were numbered and placed, without name or address attached, in the hands of a special committee to examine and award the prize.

The following is the report of said committee:

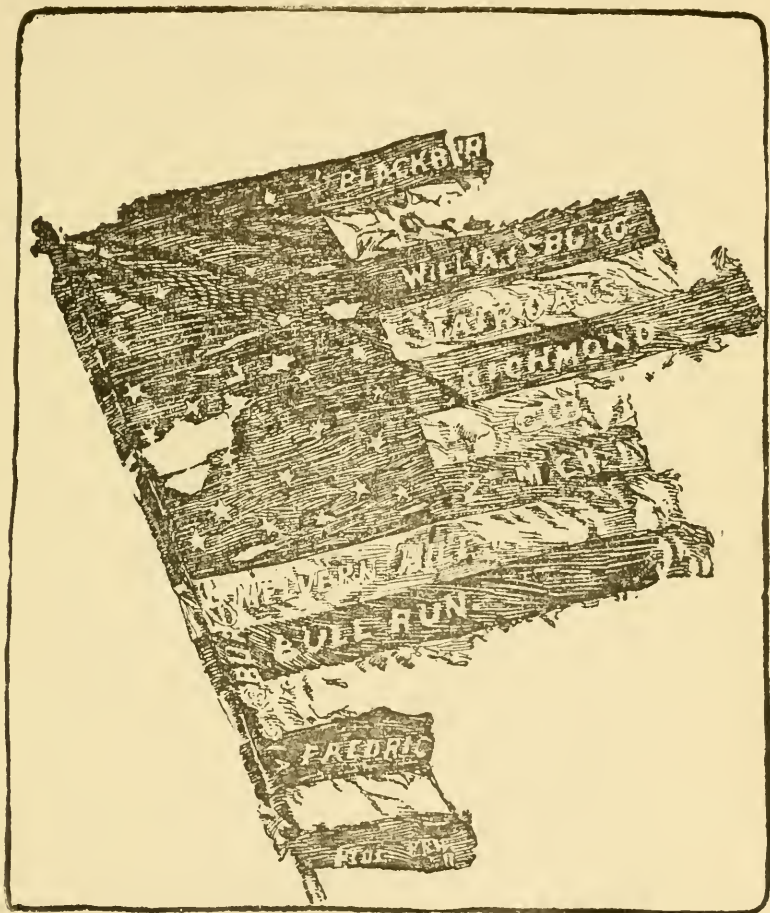
We, the committee appointed by Winfield Scott Sly, Special Aide, Department of Michigan G. A. R. for Patriotic Education and Military Training in Public Schools, having duly examined the manuscripts of "Incidental Flag Histories" submitted to us, approve and commend the manuscript marked "No. 1" as superior, in our judgment, for its scope, detail, personal mention and literary finish.

Respectfully submitted,
PATRICK H. KELLY,
Superintendent Public Instruction.
WALTER H. FRENCH,
Deputy Supt. Public Instruction.

I hereby certify that the "Incidental Flag History" manuscript marked No. 1, above referred to by the committee of examination in the prize Flag History contest, was written and submitted by Col. Frederick Schneider of Lansing, Michigan, as a history of the flag of the Second Michigan Infantry, of which he was a member from the beginning to the end of the war. To him the prize in the Flag History contest has been duly awarded.

WINFIELD SCOTT SLY,
Special Aide Department of Michigan G. A. R. for Patriotic Instruction and Military Training in Public Schools.





THE OLD FLAG OF THE SECOND MICHIGAN INFANTRY.

"Of scenes long passed, 'mid battle's strife,
Where it gained a halo of glory,
This dear old flag, each star and stripe,
Could tell many a touching story."



LIEUTENANT COLONEL FREDERICK SCHNEIDER,
AT THE AGE OF TWENTY-FOUR.
LAST COMMANDER OF THE SECOND MICHIGAN VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.

NOTE:—In a carefully prepared paper reviewing the character and services of the Second Michigan Infantry and its commanders, read at a reunion of the survivors of this famous regiment, the distinguished and brilliant General O. M. Poc—who achieved an international

MILITARY RECORD OF COLONEL FREDERICK SCHNEIDER (VETERAN), DETROIT.

Born at Saline, Michigan, Nov. 24, 1840. First enlisted in Detroit Scott Guard, Co. B, First Battalion, Frontier Guards of Michigan Militia, Oct. 26, 1859. Removed to Chicago, Ill., May, 1860. Enlisted as Sergeant in Co. C, First Illinois Infantry, April 15, 1861, at Chicago, Ill., for three months, but on receipt of telegram from Secretary Goebel of Detroit Scott Guard, saying that his company had enlisted for the war, would he join? he at once canceled his Illinois enlistment and immediately returned to Detroit, where he enlisted as private in the Detroit Scott Guard—subsequently Co. A, Second Michigan Infantry—April 18, 1861, for three months, being at the time twenty years of age. Mustered into the state service April 23, 1861. Promoted Corporal, May, 1861; Sergeant, May, 1861. On non-acceptance by the government of Second Infantry for three months' service, he re-enlisted as Sergeant for three years in same company. Mustered into U. S. service May 25, 1861. Acting First Sergeant August to November, 1861, and June to December, 1862. First Sergeant (Orderly), Dec. 7, 1862. Acting Sergeant Major, November, 1862. Severely injured and knocked unconscious by a blow on left side of his head, by an artillery horse in a runaway accident on the night of June 30, 1862, while the army was retiring from the battle near Charles City Cross Roads, Va. Re-enlisted at Blain's Cross Roads, Tenn., Dec. 31, 1863, and mustered Jan. 1, 1864. Sergeant Major May 14, 1864. Commissioned First Lieutenant, Co. A, June 6, 1864. Mustered July 27, 1864. Acting Adjutant July 30, 1864. Wounded in right arm in action near Petersburg, Va., June 18, 1864. Taken prisoner at explosion of mine under rebel fort before Petersburg, Va., July 30, 1864. Escaped same day. Wounded in left thigh and taken prisoner near Hatcher's Run, Va., Oct. 27, 1864. Again escaped, but was recaptured after great hardships and suffering and confinement in jail at Petersburg, Va., in November, 1864, in Libby prison at Richmond, Va.; stockade prison at Salisbury, N. C., and Danville prison, Va. Exchanged at Richmond, Va., Feb. 22, 1865. Commissioned Captain of Co. A, to date July 30, 1864. Mustered April 12, 1865. Commissioned Lieutenant Colonel Dec. 18, 1864. Mustered to date April 18, 1865. Commissioned Colonel April 18, 1865. Mustered out and honorably discharged at DeLaney House, D. C., July 28, 1865. Was the last commander of his regiment, which he brought home to Detroit, Michigan, where it was paid off and disbanded on Aug. 8, 1865, after a continuous service, mostly at the front, in the field from April 18, 1861, during which he participated in every march, campaign, siege, battle and skirmish in which his regiment was engaged, except the two engagements and such movements as took place while he was a wounded prisoner of war. Colonel Schneider's present residence is Lansing, Michigan.

reputation as a military engineer, and who commanded the regiment from September, 1861, to April, 1863—has put on record the following estimate of Colonel Schneider's military services: Lieutenant Colonel Schneider was mustered in as such (commander of the regiment) to date from the 18th of March, 1865. Schneider was also commissioned as Colonel by the State, but the regiment had been reduced below the standard, and he could not be mustered as Colonel—more's the pity, for the name of a more sterling soldier never appeared on the rolls of the regiment. Entering the service with its organization as an enlisted man, he rose to the command by his own unquestioned merit, and was one of the few whose fortunes were cast with it from first to last, from date of its muster in to that of its muster out. He was a type of the growth of the regiment, and it would be difficult to find a better one. Always ready for any duty—always in front when hard fighting was to be done, always amenable to discipline, steady, trustworthy and willing. Where is the "regular," who was a more "regular" than Frederick Schneider? When he rode at the head of the regiment in the Grand Review at Washington at the close of the war, he fitly represented the valor and sacrifice of the old Second Michigan "regular volunteers."

HISTORY OF THE OLD FLAG.

The history of the old flags, and Color Guard, of the Second Michigan Infantry of the Civil War of 1861-1865; by Colonel Frederick Schneider, its last commander, who served with it from its organization, April 25, 1861, to its disbandment, August 8, 1865.

Of the thousands of visitors, who annually pass through the Military Museum of Michigan's State Capitol, with but a perfunctory glance at the old Michigan battle flags, stored there in glass cases, probably not more than one in a thousand of the present generation ever realizes or comprehends what a vast amount of heroism, sacrifice of noble lives and treasure it cost to bear them to a triumphant issue in that great crucial struggle for national existence; that most tragic period in the history of this country—the great Civil War. Oh, could they but speak, what touching scenes of heroism they could give, scenes that no tongue can now tell nor pen adequately describe.

Upon the eloquent presentation of the subject to our Post by the Rev. Winfield Scott Sly—whom the National Commander of the G. A. R. has just appointed Special Aide for Michigan on "Military Instruction and Patriotic Education in the Public Schools"—I was induced to make the attempt, as well as I may, to rescue from oblivion as far as possible, the history of the flags of the Second Michigan Veteran Volunteer Infantry, with whose fortunes I was so intimately connected.

Flags or banners have for ages been the symbols of the power, glory and aspirations of the country they represented. In a regiment of troops in battle, the flag was its guiding star to glory and victory, and the most superhuman efforts were put forth to maintain it. It was the star of hope in adversity. How the heart of every patriotic citizen thrills when he reads those stirring lines in our national hymn of the star spangled banner, so well describing the anxieties and hopes of those American prisoners on board of the British frigate:

"Oh, say, can you see by the dawn's early light
 What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming?
 Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
 O'er the ramparts we watch'd were so gallantly streaming!
 And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air
 Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
 O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

During the preliminary organization of the Second Michigan Infantry—which was completed April 25, 1861—nearly every company was presented with a flag by the citizens of the locality where it had been recruited; and upon arriving at the rendezvous in Detroit, Company “E” from Niles, having been designated as the “Color Company,” the flag brought by this company was used as the regimental colors. In February, 1862, this flag, being of very light silk, had become unserviceable. It was carried by the regiment through all its hard fought battles up to and including Fredericksburg, when it had become so tattered by wear, and by some forty bullet holes, that it was deemed unfit for further service, and was returned to the donors at Niles, who treasured it highly, and who finally caused it to be stored in the Military Museum at the Capitol. It possesses a gallant record, having come out gloriously from every engagement, while eleven of its upholders or defenders were either killed or wounded. At first it seems the Captain of the color company, appointed the color bearer for the time being, and no special color guard was appointed until the distinguished commander of the regiment, Col. O. M. Poe, obtained from the War Department a regulation set of regimental infantry colors, which he formally presented to the regiment with a stirring speech, and by battalion order No. 61, dated October 31, 1861, established and provided for a special “Color Guard,” independent of any particular company, and directly under the control of the Adjutant, consisting of one “Color Sergeant”—who was the color bearer—and five “Color Corporals,” directing that it be made a post of high honor; and Captains were directed to make all promotions to Sergeants when vacancies occurred, from the color guard. The remnant of this second flag, tattered and battle scarred, is shown at the head of this sketch, reproduced from an old photograph. It has been carried in thirty-three engagements and under its folds eleven officers and one hundred and ninety-four men have been killed in action or mortally wounded.

At Loudon, Tenn., on November 12, 1863, this regiment, with a division of Gen. Burnside’s forces, was engaged in repulsing a large force of the enemy under Gen. Longstreet, who was forcing a crossing of the Tennessee river near that point, when Gen. Burnside was ordered by Gen. Grant at Chattanooga to draw the enemy on to Knoxville, but to hold the latter point at all hazards. In carrying out this difficult program the famous Michigan Brigade,

then composed of the Second, Eighth, Seventeenth and Twentieth Michigan Infantry and Reomer's Battery of the New York Artillery, in command of the intrepid Colonel William Humphrey of the Second Michigan Infantry, was assigned to the perilous position of rear guard to cover the withdrawal of Burnside's forces from Lenoir to Campbell's Station. The brigade had scarcely been withdrawn from the enemy's front, about an hour before daylight on the morning of November 16th, when the vigilant enemy discovered it, and McLaws division of the enemy promptly advanced upon us. Now followed a most desperate struggle for twelve miles to Campbell's Station, where Burnside's force had intrenched itself for a final repulse of the enemy before retiring on Knoxville. But the brigade was so skilfully handled by Colonel Humphrey that he succeeded in withdrawing his brigade to the forks of the road at Campbell's Station just in time to escape being cut off by another division of the enemy hastening down the Kingston road. All through this desperate struggle our gallant color bearer, Sergeant Ulysses D. Russell, had carried our colors unflinchingly until our last stand was made at the forks of the road, when the flagstaff in his hands was shattered and he was mortally wounded and died a few days afterward at Knoxville.

At the siege of Knoxville, Tenn., on the 24th of November, 1863, the regiment charged the enemy's rifle pits. Eighty-four were killed or wounded out of one hundred and fifty engaged, including four officers and two color corporals killed, and six sergeants who lost a leg each, the flagstaff being hit three times.

The patriotic enthusiasm, and heroic devotion of the Color Guard of the Second Michigan Infantry, to the old flag under all circumstances, is well illustrated by the following extracts from a recent letter, from Brevet Captain Wm. Gundlach, of Company A, who was Senior Color Corporal, and carried the Colors in the charge at Knoxville, and other engagements. See portrait of this sturdy, brave and gallant soldier, on tenth page, reproduced from an old photo taken in 1865.

In this letter, dictated to his daughter, from his sick bed, he says: "I entered the Color Guard shortly before the battle of Fredericksburg, Va.; at that time, the flag was carried by Sergeant Russell, of Company I; at the battle of Jackson, Miss., Russell was overcome by the great heat of that bloody day, so I took charge of the colors during the battle. The next day, Russell was again able to take

charge of it. At the battle of Campbell's Station, November 16, 1863, Russell was killed. I then took charge of the Colors. On November 24 (your birthday), when our regiment made that gallant charge on the enemy's works, our brave Major Byington, who was then in command of the regiment, said to me: 'Sergeant, don't unfurl the colors today, I am afraid you will never bring them back if you do.' I replied, 'The Colors must fly,' and they did. I planted the Colors on the enemy's rifle pit, which we had just captured, and driven the enemy out of, but the enemy immediately rallied with overwhelming force, while that masked battery on our right, enfilading our entire line with a terrific fire of canister, just raked us fore and aft, it was a miracle that any of us escaped from that murderous fire. The rebels tried to take the flag from me, and had laid hands on it, but with colors in one hand and my Colt's revolver in the other, and with the timely help of Color Corporal Martin Rheule, of Company II, who knocked one of the rebels on the head with the butt of his gun, I got the colors back and down from the rifle pit. Adjutant Noble, who was just in my rear, warned me not to be so daring with the colors. Just then came the orders to fall back to our lines. The noble Major Byington, our gallant Adjutant Noble, and two of my color guards were killed close to me. I carried the colors safely back to camp, not flying, but on my shoulders. How we got back, you, yourself, know. During the siege of Knoxville, we had no regular regimental headquarters where the colors could be kept, so I kept them in my little dugout, day and night, sleeping with them in my arms at night, for fear they might be stolen from me. I kept the flag with me during the entire Tennessee campaign. In the following February, the regiment having re-enlisted as veterans, and on its way home on veteran furlough, we were quartered at the Fifth Street Market House, in Cincinnati. Our Lieut.-Col. Hayden and I, pursuant to general orders from General Burnside, took the flag to a painter's establishment, and had the names of all the principal battles, from Blackburn's Ford to Jackson, Miss., printed in gilt letters on it. I felt very proud of that list of battles on our flag, and you remember how the citizens cheered us, when on the 22d of February, we marched through the streets on our way to the railroad station. We felt still prouder—I know I did—when I carried it down Jefferson avenue, Detroit, to our temporary regimental headquarters. After we had received our thirty days veteran furlough, I took the flag to my mother's home on Wilkins street—there seemed to be no other



WILLIAM GUNDLACH, FIRST LIEUTENANT AND BREVET CAPTAIN.
AT THE AGE OF TWENTY-SIX.

NOTE:—This gallant veteran enlisted at the age of twenty-two in Company A, Second Michigan Infantry, as Corporal, April 18, 1861, at Detroit, Michigan, for three years. Mustered May 25, 1863. Promoted Color Corporal. After Color Sergeant Ulysses D. Russell was mortally wounded at Campbell's Station on Nov. 16, 1863, Corporal Gundlach became Color Sergeant and re-enlisted Dec. 31, 1863, at Blaine's Cross Roads, Tenn. Mustered Jan., 1864; re-assigned to Color Guard. (See his letter printed on pages 8 to 13, setting forth some of his experiences while connected with the Color Guard.) Promoted First Sergeant (Orderly) Company A. Taken prisoner before Petersburg, Va., July 30, 1864. Exchanged Feb. 22, 1865. Discharged for promotion April 30, 1865. Commissioned First Lieutenant, April 25, 1865. Mustered May 1, 1865. Mustered out and honorably discharged at De Lancy House, D. C., July 28, 1865. Participated in all engagements of the regiment prior to July 31, 1864, when he was taken prisoner. Brevetted Captain for conspicuous bravery in action and meritorious service during the war.

safe place for it—where I kept it locked up until we re-assembled at our rendezvous at Mt. Clemens.”

During this interval, the entire Ninth Army Corps under Gen. Burnside, to which the Second Michigan Infantry was then attached, was re-transferred to the East and again attached to the Army of the Potomac, rendezvousing at Annapolis, Md., in accordance with the plans and orders of Gen. U. S. Grant, who had just been appointed by President Lincoln, Commander in Chief of all the armies of the United States—where the decimated regiments of the Ninth Army Corps, were rapidly being filled up with new recruits. It was at this point that the Second Michigan Infantry, with new recruits, after the expiration of its veteran furlough, rejoined its army corps on April 6, 1864.

Captain Gundlach in the letter just referred to, goes on to say: “You remember the day we marched from Annapolis, toward Washington, I believe it was the second day, after we had passed in review at Washington before President Lincoln, we made a forced march across Long Bridge towards Alexandria, in order to join the remainder of the Corps. Many of the boys became exhausted on that march, and were obliged to drop out—but of course it would never do for the colors to drop out; so, exhausted as I was, I kept on, till we bivouacked for the night. Next morning I could hardly stand, but I kept up till we reached Warrenton Junction, when I told Adjutant Henry Daniels that I was not able to march that day, as I felt unable even to stand. He sent Dr. Vickery to me: I requested to be carried in the ambulance part of the way, hoping to be better before night. My request was granted. I turned the colors over to Color-Corporal John J. Callahan. Before doing so, I severed a tattered piece of the flag from it, that hung by a few threads only. I put the fragment in my diary, thinking if I never see those colors again I will at least have a small piece of it as a precious keepsake.

The doctor had me put on a stretcher and carried to the ambulance. All day I thought I was following the regiment, but, behold at night, I discovered my mistake; when the ambulance halted before the Mansion House Hospital at Alexandria, and I was enrolled as an inflammatory rheumatism patient. Two days later, most of the patients were taken in a box car, to the South and 24th Street Hospital, Philadelphia. Through the kind assistance of our former surgeon, Alonzo Palmer (late Dean of the medical faculty of Michigan

University), who happened to visit the hospital, I was able within a few weeks to walk again.

I was informed presently that I was to be transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps. I felt this would be a disgrace to me, so when the time came for a crowd to be sent to the front from the hospital, I went to the front under the name of Kelley. Kelley was an old Irishman, who had been at the hospital for two years, had had a good time, and did not want to go to the front again. He willingly agreed, when I suggested that we exchange names and I go to the front in his place. Next morning when we assembled in front of the hospital, for roll call, I answered to the name of Kelley. When we reached Washington, Kelley was missing, for I had resumed my own name. I went to the Provost Marshal's office, inquired for my regiment. I was given transportation to City Point, and informed that the regiment was expected there that day. I arrived there shortly before the regiment did, about the 15th or 16th of June, 1864. Jesse Gaines of Company G was the Color Bearer, when I rejoined the regiment. As our company was short of sergeants (you then being Sergeant Major). Will Lang and myself being the only old sergeants left, I remained with the company. Our terrible campaign after that—our being taken prisoners, in the dreadful disaster at the Crater—you will remember as well as I do. Under Sergeant Gaines, the colors were lost at the Crater—but only for a time.

The day after I returned to Detroit on my thirty-day prison furlough, as provided by the cartel of exchange, two ladies called to see me. One was Mrs. Poe, wife of our beloved General, the other the noble Mrs. Brent, her mother, and also of Mrs. Lyster, the famous author of "Michigan, My Michigan." They had read in the morning's "Free Press" the names of the members of the Second Michigan Infantry who had returned from Libby prison. During the call Mrs. Poe told me that the flag had been lost, and expressed deep regret that she could or did not have a piece of it, as a memento of our great sacrifices, and its awful baptism in the blood of her husband's old regiment. I told her what I had done at Warrenton, and that I had carried that precious fragment with me in the hospital, the Petersburg campaign, and for seven months in Libby prison. I took the piece from my note book, and gave each of them a piece about the size of a half-dollar. Each of the ladies had her piece put into a brooch.

At our regimental reunion of survivors, in Detroit in 1887, which

was held on the steamer Sapho up to Lake St. Clair, with banquet at the Star Island house at "Little Venice" on the Lake St. Clair Flats, I found out that there was some dispute as to who had carried the colors on the 24th of November, 1863. Mrs. Poe, who was present, said that she had told the General, that the man who had claimed to carry the colors on that day was not the right one, for the man who had carried them had given her the piece in the brooch that she was wearing. When she saw me, she said: "That is the man who gave me the piece in my brooch," and asked if I remembered the circumstance. Of course I did, perfectly. "You are the man we have been looking for, the one who carried the flag at Knoxville. The General also said: "I remember distinctly about his carrying the flag on that day, and also thinking that he would never return alive." I still have the piece of the flag referred to, and it is one of my most treasured keepsakes. This is all that I recall at present about my personal experiences with the flag."

July 30, 1864, during the attack which followed the blowing up of one of the principal forts within the enemy's lines, before Petersburg, Va., known in the list of engagements as "The Crater," the regiment was in the advance of the charge made by the Second Brigade, Third Division of Ninth Corps. At every step the fire of the enemy in front and on each flank concentrated upon them and plowed their ranks with great slaughter. The charge was checked on the side of the crest; there was a halt, and finally the the whole line, wavering under terrible odds, recoiled, nearly surrounded, the regimental commander among the dead, fifty-seven men killed and prisoners and, seeing escape hopeless, Color Sergeant Jesse H. Gaines ran to the rear as far as possible and hurled the flag over the parapet towards our lines, trusting it would be seen and saved by some of our men. He was almost instantly a prisoner with others of the color guard. The flag was found and taken by the enemy and carried a trophy to Richmond. A Richmond paper, narrating the events of this battle, said, in substance: "Among the flags taken was that of the Second Michigan Infantry, an organization well known in our army since the first Bull Run. It bears the names of many prominent engagements with both the eastern and western armies. This regiment must have been nearly annihilated, or it would never have lost its colors." And Color Sergeant Gaines, in his interesting sketch, pithily says: "It is true the flag was lost, *but it was never surrendered.*" When Richmond was taken it was

found in the rebel capitol, removed to Washington and later, by an order of the War Department, sent to the regimental association of survivors, and is now among the war relics in the Capitol at Lansing.

As a proof that no dishonor was attached to the regiment for its loss under such trying circumstances, General Meade, commanding the Army of the Potomac, ordered a new flag to be presented to the regiment, which was done.

Upon general orders of Army Headquarters, the following most prominent battles and sieges in which the regiment had borne a creditable part were printed upon this last flag, as far as practicable, all minor engagements being left out for want of space on the flag:

Blackburn's Ford, Bull Run, in 1861, Siege of Yorktown, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, Glendale, Malvern Hill, Bull Run in 1862, Groveton, Chantilly, Fredericksburg, Siege of Vicksburg, Siege of Jackson, Miss.; Blue Springs, Campbell's Station, Siege of Knoxville, Wilderness, Spotsylvania, North Anna, Bethesda Church, Cold Harbor, General Assault on Petersburg June 17 and 18, 1864, Siege of Petersburg, Crater, Weldon Rail Road, Ream's Station, Poplar Springs Church, Hatcher's Run, Fort Steadman, Capture of Petersburg and Appomattox.

But what of that gallant and brave band who from time formed the Color Guard, that bore these glorious old flags to victory and through adversity, who were the especial target of the enemy's shot and shell in these great battles in all these nerve-racking, heart-breaking campaigns? Who were they, and what became of them? These questions and many similar questions regarding the rank and file of Michigan troops, this great State has at last sought to answer, as far as the very defective war records would permit, by the recent publication of regimental, alphabetical individual records of the Civil War.

No history of the Second Michigan Infantry flags can be complete without an especial mention of the names and history of those sturdy and gallant comrades who formed its Color Guard, who were so intimately connected with its fortunes in the fierce strife of battle.

From the official order book of the regiment, running from 1861 to December 31, 1863—which is now in the writer's possession—the appended official data as to Color Guard promotions have been collected and, for want of space in this article, have been arranged chronologically. I regret exceedingly that the second volume of regimental order book, running from January, 1864, to August, 1865,

cannot be found, so that similar data might be given of those gallant comrades who succeeded those mentioned in the tabular list which forms an appendix to this article, also, that more war time photos could not be obtained to illustrate this article.

The dramatic death of Alfred Rowe, noted in the Color Guard list just referred to, is thus reported in the regimental record recently published by the State: "In the first charges on the enemy's outworks made on that fatal day, the Color Sergeant was wounded, and Color Corporal Rowe became Color Bearer, and in the last assault, about 5 p. m., on the enemy's main line of defense before Petersburg, he carried the regimental colors and rushed ahead of the regimental line of battle about fifty yards through a very storm of shot and shell, when he sank to the ground against some low brush, shot through the head, but still holding up the colors in a firm grip, rigid in death, with a smile of triumph lighting up his countenance, when Lieutenant Frederick Schneider of Company A went out to him under fire of the enemy and brought back the colors to the regimental line of battle, the entire Color Guard having been either killed or wounded."† The sequel to this incident shows the remarkable fact that after dark that night a reserve brigade with picks and shovels, reinforced our own brigade, and before daylight the next morning we had thrown up a strong line of rifle pits parallel with the enemy's line in our front, at the very point where the brave Alfred Rowe had carried the Second Michigan flag, it being the nearest point to the enemy's works that any regimental battle line reached on that bloody day. Later on, during the siege, right back of our position in the ravine, the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Infantry, a regiment of miners from the upper Schuylkill coal region,* dug the tunnel out under the enemy's lines, through which his main fort in our front was blown up on July 30, 1864, which led

† [About twenty feet from where Corporal Rowe had fallen, clasping the flag-staff in his dying grasp, lay a young comrade aged about eighteen, severely wounded through the shoulder; weakened by pain and loss of blood, he was unable to rise, and faintly pleaded with Lieut. Schneider to help him from the field. Responding to his appeal the lieutenant, grasping the flag in one hand, and lying flat beside the wounded boy, he drew the well arm around his neck and by sheer strength rose to his knees, then to his feet, and bore the sufferer on his back and amid flying bullets, carried him and the rescued flag back to the line.]—Editor.

*See Major Wm. H. Powell's famous account, "The Tragedy of the Crater," in Vol. 12 of Century Magazine, page 760.

to the disastrous battle of the "Crater," at which this same flag was lost and some of our best officers killed or wounded. Among the killed was the regimental commander, Captain John L. Young. Our entire Color Guard was surrounded and captured. The writer was also captured in this battle, but succeeded in escaping to our lines the same day.

After the appointments to Color Guard, mentioned in the appendix, no definite data is available as to when and what subsequent appointments were made. It seems that when the new flag was issued in August or September, 1864, that Joseph Richardson of Company C was appointed acting Color Sergeant, and he, with the regiment, were the first Union troops to enter Petersburg at the capture on April 3, 1865, and in his hands the Second Michigan Infantry flag was the first Union flag to wave over the postoffice and United States Custom House, where the rebel flag had floated so defiantly before. When Color Corporal Nathan M. Richardson of Company F had been exchanged and returned to duty with the regiment in June, 1865, he was promoted to Color Sergeant, and was mustered out as such with the regiment, after turning the colors over to the State authorities.

As an instance of the terrible sacrifices the regiment made in the Grant campaign of 1864: General Wm. Humphrey, who was then Colonel of the regiment and commanding the Second Brigade, Third Division of Ninth Army Corps, then composed of the Second, Eighth, Seventeenth, Twentieth Michigan Infantry, and First Michigan Sharpshooters, in his official report of casualties in the assaults of June 17 and 18, 1864, reported a loss of killed and wounded in his regiment of over sixty per cent of those present for duty in those terrible two days of fighting.

The flag of the Second Michigan Infantry was in the first organized engagement of the Army of the Potomac in the war, it being the first regiment to engage the enemy at Blackburn's Ford, Va., on July 18, 1861, in the first Bull Run campaign, and was the last flag to leave the first Bull Run battlefield. Its first commander—the noted Colonel Israel B. Richardson—then commanding the brigade composed of the Second and Third Michigan Infantry, First Massachusetts Infantry, Twelfth New York Infantry and a Rhode Island battery of Light Artillery, covering the retreat of the Army of the Potomac from the Bull Run battlefield.

Such, in brief, are the main facts of the gallant record of the Color Guard of the Second Michigan Infantry, in the life and death struggle of this country in the Civil War. A record of patriotic devotion and sacrifice in defense of the old flag, worthy of the profound respect and admiration of their posterity. Worthy of publication, and being handed down in the family annals to the coming generations; who, on learning the noble part borne by their ancestors, who fought, bled and died in upholding the old flag, and bearing it through a thousand perils to a triumphant issue, will cherish it as a rich heritage, and feel a proprietary right in its glories; will gather new inspirations, new love, and greater reverence for this great symbol of the power, glory and aspirations of our Republic, the illustrious Star Spangled Banner, the American Flag! Let us ever cherish the noble sentiment in the national song by the famous Geo. P. Morris:

“The union of lakes, the union of lands,
The union of States none can sever—
The union of hearts, the union of hands,
And the flag of our Union forever!”



CAPTAIN JOHN C. HARDY, COMPANY D, SECOND MICHIGAN INFANTRY.

AT THE AGE OF TWENTY-THREE.

"The Hero of Petersburg, Va., at Fort Steadman, March 25, 1865"

He enlisted April 20, 1861, at the age of nineteen. Promoted to the Color Guard March 18, 1862, as Color Corporal, where he did valiant service defending the colors. Was promoted Sergeant and returned to his company and advanced step by step to the rank of Captain.

NOTE:—Colonel March says: "The country can never pay to him, and to such as he, the debt it justly owes. In times of danger that made the fearless quail, Captain Hardy seemed never to think of himself, but of a soldier's duty. I promoted him, because of his intrepid valor. To his clear perception and quick comprehension, a half defeat was turned into a stimulating victory on the 25th of March, 1865. His intelligence, courage, quick action on that desperate night attack of the enemy under General Gordon, stamped him a worthy successor of the patriots of Lexington, Bunker Hill, Valley Forge and Yorktown."

APPENDIX.

Official announcements by battalion order of promotion to Color Guard, indicated by number and date of order, with brief remarks on subsequent career, of the noble heroes, who were so intimately connected with the fortunes of these flags, in the fierce strife of battle, and the many perils through which they bore them to a triumphant issue:

- No. 61. Oct. 31, 1861. William H. Delano, Co. E, Color Sergeant.**
Was prostrated with sickness and finally discharged July 21, 1864.
- No. 61. Oct. 31, 1861. Frederick Cook, Co. B, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant, disabled and discharged Sept. 16, 1862.
- No. 61. Oct. 31, 1861. Charles C. Baker, Co. C, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant; promoted First Lieutenant, transferred to 159th N. Y. Infantry, Sept. 26, 1862.
- No. 61. Oct. 31, 1861. Elisha P. Clark, Co. G, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant and discharged at expiration of term of service, July 12, 1864.
- No. 61. Oct. 31, 1861. William H. Johnson, Co. H, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant; died of disease July 21, 1862.
- No. 61. Oct. 31, 1861. John J. Callahan, Co. K, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant, re-enlisted, acting color-bearer; commissioned First Lieutenant, Adjutant, Brevet Captain and Major for meritorious services during the war. Mustered out July 28, 1865. [See portrait on page 24].
- No. 73. Dec. 1, 1861. John S. Moore, Co. E, Color Sergeant.**
Promoted Lieutenant and Captain. Severely wounded while gallantly leading his company in disastrous battle at the Crater and discharged for disability April 30, 1865.
- No. 77. Dec. 5, 1861. JOHN SCHULZ, Co. A, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant; wounded and discharged October, 1864.
- No. 77. Dec. 5, 1861. Stephen W. Lovett, Co. D, Color Corporal**
Promoted Sergeant; wounded and discharged July 9, 1864.
- No. 77. Dec. 5, 1861. Nelson Fletcher, Co. F, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant, Q. M. Sergeant and Lieutenant. Killed in action at Ox Ford, Va., May 24, 1864.
- No. 82. Dec. 17, 1861. Sidney R. Prentice, Co. I, Color Corporal.**
Wounded and discharged for disability Sept. 29, 1862.
- No. 84. Dec. 27. William Blomberg, Co. H, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant, First Sergeant, Acting Sergeant, Major. Died of wounds received in action at Campbell's Station, Tenn., Nov. 16, 1863.
- No. 18. March 18, 1862. Hugh McCabe, Co. A, Color Corporal.**
Wounded and discharged for disability at Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 8, 1862.
- No. 18. March 18, 1862. Edward F. Tucker, Co. B, Color Corporal.**
Missing at Conrad's Ferry, Md., Sept. 25, 1862. No further record.
- No. 18. March 18, 1862. Charles D. White, Co. C, Color Corporal.**
Promoted to Sergeant. Participated in all battles of regiment at Knoxville, and discharged July 21, 1864. Present residence, Battle Creek, Mich.

- No. 18. March 18, 1862. John C. Hardy, Co. D, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant, First Sergeant, First Lieutenant and Captain for conspicuous gallantry in action. Present residence, Detroit, Mich. [See portrait on page 18.]
- No. 18. March 18, 1862. Joseph Richards, Co. E, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant, Q. M. Sergeant, Second Lieutenant. Resigned April 21, 1864.
- No. 18. March 18, 1862. William Shakespeare, Co. K, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant, First Sergeant. Wounded in action six times at Jackson, Miss., July 11, 1863. Was appointed Brigadier-General and Q. M. General of State, in 1883 and 1884. [See portrait on page 27.]
- No. 29. May 4, 1862. Ulysses D. Russell, Co. I, Color Corporal.**
This particularly gallant soldier was promoted Color Sergeant Oct. 8, 1862. Was wounded in action at Malvern Hill, Va., July 1, 1862, and died of wounds received in action at Campbell's Station, Tenn., Nov. 16, 1863, where the enemy's shot shattered the flag staff in his hands.
- No. 30. May 12, 1862. Charles W. Mitchel, Co. F, Color Corporal.**
Missing Aug. 11, 1863. No further record.
- No. 31. May 27, 1862. Zephania Sexton, Co. D, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant. Reinstated and transferred to Medical Dept. Mustered out with regiment.
- No. 52. Aug. 1, 1862. Charles D. Morse, Co. E, Color Corporal.**
Transferred to Battery K, 3d U. S. Artillery. Promoted Sergeant.
- No. 52. Aug. 1, 1862. Roscoe D. Dix, Co. K, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant. While acting First Sergeant was severely wounded in action at Knoxville, Tenn., Nov. 24, 1863. Taken prisoner, exchanged and discharged for disability May 25, 1864. Since has been elected to many offices of trust and honor, among which were Commissioner of State Land Office for 1886 to 1890, and Auditor General for 1897 to 1900. Present residence Berrien Springs, Mich.
- No. 53. Aug. 9, 1862. George A. Southworth, Co I, Color Sergeant.**
Supposed to have been wounded and lost. No record.
- No. 56. Sept. 26, 1862. Stephen G. Colvin, Co. I, Camp Color Bearer.**
Killed in action at Wilderness, Va., May 6, 1864.
- No. 85. Nov. 10, 1862. Frederick J. Sheldon, Co. B, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant. Wounded in action at Knoxville, Tenn., and discharged for disability June 6, 1864.
- No. 85. Nov. 10, 1862. Herman Rohns, Co. A, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant. Discharged for disability April 25, 1864. Participated in all engagements to June 11, 1863. Died at Detroit, Mich., September, 1904.
- No. 85. Nov. 10, 1862. Sheldon Rinehart, Co. B, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant. Wounded in action at Knoxville, Tenn., Nov. 24, 1863. Discharged for disability June 6, 1864. Now a physician at Laporte, Mich.
- No. 85. Nov. 10, 1862. Thomas P. Jones, Co. C, Color Corporal.**
Wounded in action at Knoxville, Tenn., Nov. 24, 1863. Promoted Sergeant. Participated in all engagements to Knoxville. Discharged July 21, 1864. Present residence, Detroit, Mich.
- No. 85. Nov. 10, 1862. Elias J. Schokley, Co. E, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant. Died of wounds received in action at Knoxville, Tenn., Nov. 24, 1863.

- No. 85. Nov. 10, 1862. Peter Smith, Co. G, Color Corporal.**
Wounded in action at Fort Saunders, Tenn., Nov. 29, 1863, and discharged for disability July 9, 1864.
- No. 85. Nov. 10, 1862. Charles H. Rogers, Co. H, Color Corporal.**
Promoted First Sergeant, First Lieutenant and Captain. Wounded in action at Wilderness, Va., May 6, 1864. Mustered out with regiment. Present residence, Northville, Mich.
- No. 85. Nov. 10, 1862. Charles H. Butler, Co. I, Color Corporal.**
Discharged at expiration of term of service, July 21, 1864.
- No. 86. Nov. 18, 1862. Richard H. Halstead, Co. F, Color Corporal.**
Promoted First Sergeant. Taken prisoner in action at Campbells Station, Tenn., Nov. 16, 1863. Exchanged and mustered out. Died at Concord, Mich., in 1903.
- No. 4. Jan. 13, 1863. Oscar F. Lockhead, Co. H, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Ordnance Sergeant, First Lieutenant and Quartermaster. Mustered out with regiment.
- No. 17. March 3, 1863. Alonzo Huxley, Co. K, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant. Re-enlisted and mustered out with regiment.
- No. 18. March 6, 1863. William Gundlach, Co. A, Color Corporal.**
Promoted First Sergeant and First Lieutenant. Brevetted Captain for conspicuous gallantry in action and meritorious services during the war. Participated in all engagements to July 30, 1864, when he was taken prisoner and contracted disease of the eyes, from which he finally lost his sight. Mustered out with regiment. Present residence, White Bear Lake, Minn. [See portrait on page 10.]
- No. 18. March 6, 1863. William Fuller, Co. D, Color Corporal.**
Wounded and taken prisoner in action at Knoxville, Tenn., Nov. 24, 1863. Exchanged and discharged for disability, July 9, 1864.
- No. 18. March 6, 1863. John S. Glidden, Co. E, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant, First Sergeant and Captain in Colored Regiment. Was acting Color Bearer and wounded in action at Williamsburg, Va., May 5, 1862. Discharged to accept commission.
- No. 18. March 6, 1863. James N. Willett, Co. F, Color Corporal.**
Participated in all engagements to Knoxville, Tenn., where he was wounded in action Nov. 24, 1863, and finally discharged for disability, May 25, 1864.
- No. 18. March 6, 1863. Martin Ruehle, Co. H, Color Corporal.**
Promoted First Sergeant and Second Lieutenant. Wounded in action before Petersburg, Va., Feb. 22, 1865. Taken to Satterlee Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa. No further record.
- No. 36. June 1, 1863. William H. Flagg, Co. C, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant. Wounded in action at Blue Springs, Tenn., Oct. 10, 1863. Subsequently attached to Engineer Dept. of 9th Army Corps.
- No. 55. Oct. 19, 1863. Cyrus Knight, Co. G, Color Corporal.**
Promoted Sergeant. Wounded in action at Williamsburg, Va., May 5, 1862, and killed in action at Knoxville, Tenn., Nov. 24, 1863.
Note: No record for interval from December, 1863, to June, 1864.
- **May, 1864. Alfred Rowe, Co. G, Color Corporal.**
When the Color Sergeant was wounded at the beginning of the engagements on June 18, 1864, he became Color Bearer and was killed near the close of the action of that day. [See description on page 15.]

- **May 25, 1864. Nathan M. Richardson, Co. F, Color Corporal.**
Wounded in action at Knoxville, Tenn., Nov. 24, 1863. Wounded in action before Petersburg, June 18, 1864. Taken prisoner in action at the Crater, July 30, 1864. Exchanged Feb. 22, 1865. Promoted Color Sergeant June, 1865, and mustered out with regiment. Was appointed Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Adjutant General of State for 1897, 1898 and 1899. Present residence, Caro, Mich.
- **June 19, 1864, Jesse H. Gaines, Co. G, Color Sergeant.**
Taken prisoner in action at the Crater, July 30, 1864, with entire Color Guard, after hurling the colors over the ramparts towards our lines, being cut off from support and surrounded by the enemy. Was exchanged, and promoted First Lieutenant. Mustered out with regiment. Present residence, Mishawaka, Ind.
- **Sept. —, 1864. Joseph Richardson, Co. C, Acting Color Sergeant.**
At the capture of Petersburg, Va., April 3, 1865, the 2d Mich. Infy. being the first of the Union troops to enter the city, he had the honor of first displaying the Union colors over the Post Office and U. S. Custom House where the rebel flag had so long floated defiantly in the breeze. Promoted Sergeant and was mustered out with regiment. Died at Charlotte, Mich., Nov. 17, 1899.

To further emphasize the great and unsurpassed devotion of the followers of the flag of the Second Michigan Infantry, the writer begs to quote here, from page 199 of "Michigan in the War," the following pathetic extracts from a letter written by Gen. O. M. Poe, shortly after the regiment had re-enlisted, and was about to start for home on its thirty-days veteran furlough. Gen. Poe was then Chief Engineer on Gen. Burnside's staff, and had learned, when too late, of the blundering, stupid order which sent his brave old regiment into a useless bloody sacrifice, viz: "Anticipating their return to the State, their old commander, Colonel Poe, who had been Chief Engineer during the siege of Knoxville, wrote a friend in Detroit a letter, of which the following is an extract. Coming from one so capable of judging, it unquestionably estimates correctly the bravery and valuable services of the regiment, while it breathes the true feeling of his heart for those he had commanded in so many hard-fought fields, and whom he loved so well:

"On the 24th November, 1863, the Second Michigan with 150 men, charged the enemy's rifle pits and the Major lost a leg and was mortally wounded through the hips; Adjutant Noble and Lieut. Galpin were killed; six Sergeants lost a leg each; the Color-bearer was mortally wounded and has since died;* in all eighty-four were

*This is an error, resulting undoubtedly from Color Bearer Russell—who was mortally wounded on the 16th of November, having died a day or two before, which undoubtedly misled the General, unwittingly to attribute his death to the battle on Nov. 24th. —F. S.

killed and wounded out of the small party—about sixty per cent. Yet the remnant of the brave old regiment was in the bastion which the enemy tried to carry by assault on the morning of the 29th, and their courage and cheer were as great yesterday as when I took command of them two years ago a thousand strong.

“There is no language that can exaggerate the behavior of these ‘braves.’ They will probably be almost unnoticed in Detroit, because they have ever been too proud to seek any demonstration. Yet I would pity any one’s humanity who could look unmoved upon that remnant of a regiment whose flag has area enough to bear only a portion of their battles. Proud am I that I was ever associated with such heroes, and if there is any event of my life with which I am particularly satisfied, it is that I built Fort Saunders, and that, protected by its parapet, the regiment I once had the honor to command hurled back, discomfited and demoralized more than ten times their number of the best troops in the rebel service. There is something sublimely grand in the steady, quiet courage of those men of our ‘Sccond.’ They are all intelligent enough to know their danger, and always true and brave enough to face it. They never yet have failed in time of need, and they never will. I would ask no higher honor than to ride at their head through the streets of Detroit, for you know I am ashamed neither of them, their deeds, nor of my enthusiasm for them. I have written thus warmly about them because my feelings are wrought up, and I know you can appreciate them. If any of the wounded Second reach Detroit I beg of you to look after them as I know you can.’”

While other regiments from this State who came out under the first call were either disbanded or consolidated with other regiments when their term of service expired and new organizations took their numbers, the Second Michigan Infantry was the only regiment from Michigan that re-enlisted and retained an unbroken organization throughout the entire war, from its very beginning to its close. Always at the front to the end at Appomattox. It had a total enrollment during the war of 2,151. Many of its members were recruited from the students of the University, Albion, Hillsdale and Kalamazoo Colleges. Many of its rank and file were promoted to commissioned officers in other regiments. Its first two commanders who rose to great distinction during the war were of the regular army, and graduates of West Point. It was frequently mentioned in general orders for conspicuous gallantry in action, and was received



JOHN J. CALLAHAN, OF COMPANY K, AT THE AGE OF 22.
BREVET MAJOR AT CLOSE OF THE WAR.

NOTE:—The subject of the above portrait—reproduced from an old war time photo, taken in 1863—was a member of the Color Guard from September to December, 1861, and from August, 1862, to May, 1864. He carried the colors through the bloody battle of the "Wilderness," Va., May 6, 1864, where he was wounded and disabled. Nov. 14, 1863, when General Burnside's force was opposing the overwhelming force of the enemy under General Longstreet, near Soudon, Tenn., General Grant ordered our forces to retire on Knoxville, and hold the latter point at all hazards. The Second Michigan Infantry formed part of the rear guard. In the desperate struggle that followed, Corporal Callahan, who had been greatly weakened by sickness had nevertheless pluckily attempted to keep up with the Colors, but had to finally fall behind, and was near being captured by the enemy, when his younger brother, "Billy," came running up to him crying over his distress, took his gun and dragged him along to a point where he got him into an ambulance that carried him to Knoxville, where, although still on the sick list, he rejoined the Color Guard, and was in the disastrous charge of his regiment Nov. 24, 1863. When the regiment was ordered back into the fortifications, he fell down completely exhausted, but was miraculously saved by his comrades, but to his inexpressible

with a grand ovation by a large concourse of citizens at Detroit on its return from the war, on August 1, 1865.

The following is an official list of the engagements it participated in under fire of the enemy:

1861.

*Blackburn's Ford, Va., July 18.

*Bull Run, Va., July 21.

Bailey's Cross Roads and Munson's Hill, Va., in August, September and October, 1861.

1862.

Siege of Yorktown, Va., April 4 to May 4.

*Williamsburg, Va., May 5.

*Fair Oaks, Va., May 31 and June 1.

Near Richmond, Va., June 18.

Jordan's Ford, Va., June 29.

*Glendale, Va., June 30.

Malvern Hill, Va., July 1.

Second Blackburn's Ford, Va., August 28.

Second Bull Run, Va., August 29.

*Groveton, Va., August 30.

*Chantilly, Va., September 1.

Fredericksburg, Va., December 12 to 14.

1863.

Siege of Vicksburg, Miss., June 22 to July 4.

*Siege of Jackson, Miss., July 11 to July 18.

*Charge at Jackson, Miss., July 11.

Blue Springs, Tenn., October 10.

grief, his gallant brother, "Billy," was killed in this bloody action. According to the official record published by the state: John J. Callahan (Veteran), enlisted in Company K, Second Infantry, May 10, 1861, at Kalamazoo, for 3 years, age 20. Mustered May 25, 1861. Promoted Color Corporal and Sergeant. Re-enlisted Dec. 31, 1863, at Blain's Cross Roads, Tenn. Commissioned First Lieutenant of Company C, June 6, 1865. Mustered to date June 13, 1865. Commissioned Adjutant July 22, 1865. Brevetted Captain and Major, U. S. Volunteers March 13, 1865, for gallant and meritorious services during the war. Mustered out and honorably discharged at De Laney House, D. C., July 28, 1865. He had many miraculous escapes from death, while many of his comrades around him were killed or wounded, having participated in nearly all of the many engagements of his regiment from Blackburn's Ford, July 18, 1861, to the Wilderness, Va., May 6, 1864. After his discharge he was appointed to a clerkship in the War Department in the Adjutant General's Office at Washington, D. C., where, subsequently on the recovery of the Union battle flags from Richmond, Va., finding among them the Second Michigan Infantry flag, under whose folds he had so often periled his life for its maintenance, he was instrumental in procuring its return from the War Department to the Regimental Association of Survivors, by whom it was turned over to the state for preservation.

F. S.

Loudon, Tenn., November 14.

*Lenoir Station, Tenn., November 15.

*Campbell's Station, Tenn., November 16.

*Siege of Knoxville, Tenn., November 17 to December 5.

*Charge at Knoxville, Tenn., November 24.

*Night Assault on Fort Saunders, Tenn., November 28 and 29.
Thurley's Ford, Tenn., December 15.

1864.

Strawberry Plains, Tenn., January 22.

Near Knoxville, Tenn., January 22.

*Wilderness, Va., May 5, 6 and 7.

Ny-River, Va., May 9.

*Spottsylvania, Va., May 10, 11 and 12.

Ox Ford, Va., May 23.

North Anna, Va., May 24 and 25.

Tolopotomy, Va., May 30.

*Bethesda Church, Va., June 2 and 3.

Cold Harbor, Va., June 7.

*Assaults on Petersburg, Va., June 17 and 18.

*The Crater, Va. (explosion of mine), July 30.

Weldon Railroad, Va., August 19 and 20.

Ream's Station, Va., August 25.

Poplar Springs Church, Va., September 30.

Pegram Farm, Va., October 2.

Boydon Road, Va., October 8.

Hatcher's Run, Va., October 27 and 28.

1865.

*Night Assault on Fort Steadman, Va., March 25.

*Capture of Petersburg, Va., April 3.

Pursuit of enemy, ending with surrender of entire rebel army
at Appomattox Court House, Va., April 9.

*Indicates engagements where the regiment was especially mentioned in general orders for conspicuous gallantry in action.

FIRST SERGEANT WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, COMPANY K, SECOND MICHIGAN
INFANTRY.
AT THE AGE OF TWENTY.

He enlisted April 12, 1861, at the age of seventeen, was assigned to the Color Guard as Color Corporal March 18, 1862, was promoted Sergeant in his company May 27, 1862, and First Sergeant March 1, 1863. Was severely wounded at Jackson, Miss., July 11, 1863. Honorably discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability, after having participated with his regiment in seventeen hard fought battles from Blackburn's Ford and Bull Run to Vicksburg.



NOTE:—The above portrait, although a reproduction from an old and faded photo of 1862, still shows the great intelligence and determined will power of this brave young soldier, that on occasions amounted to such an obstinate and determined spirit, that no amount of suffering could subdue, as the following incident will show. In the gallant charge of his regiment at Jackson, Miss., July 11, 1863, he was wounded through both legs near the hips, having both thighs fractured; while lying there on the battlefield, with these painful wounds, he had several more bullets fired into his body. When carried off the battlefield to the field hospital, and a consultation over his case was held by our surgeons, it was concluded by them that his wounds were mortal and his case hopeless. Our surgeon, Dr. Henry Clelland of Detroit—then said to him: "I don't want to alarm you unnecessarily, but you have only a few hours to live, still you may live a few days, but I can't give you any encouragement." He feebly responded that he thought it was not so bad. A short time afterwards the surgeon came to him with a letter, saying to him that he had "written to his mother of his unfortunate condition; was there any final message to add." He insisted on seeing that letter. Finally the surgeon read it to him. Said he, "Doctor, I want to add a few words to it." "Why," said the surgeon, "do you think you can write?" "Why, yes, I think I can scrawl out a few words if you will prop me up," and they complied with his request. After propping him up he added to that letter these words: "Do not be alarmed, dear mother, the doctor is mistaken. I am going to get well and come back to you." Some time after he was brought up to the general hospital at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he lay for nine long months on his back in an agony of suffering, unable to stir from one side to the other, and during all that time the doctors were in doubt about his final recovery. But the obstinate determination not to die but to come back to that dear mother pulled him through to final recovery.

THE GRAND REVIEW—THEN AND NOW.

In eighteen hundred and sixty-five
 We marched in the Grand Review.
 In Washington, in the month of May,
 We marched in the Grand Review.
 Then we were young and in our prime,
 Our hearts were light and our feet kept time
 With the drums as they beat a merry rhyme,
 As we marched in the Grand Review.

CHORUS—

(Fall in!) We marched. (Shoulder arms!) We marched;
 (Forward!) We marched in the Grand Review;
 (File right!) We marched; (company into line!) We marched;
 (Present arms!) We marched in the Grand Review.

And Washington with banners gay,
 As we marched in the Grand Review,
 Her welcome sent to all that day,
 As we marched in the Grand Review.
 The happy throng, the gladdening cheer,
 The countless thousands gathered there,
 With joyous music filled the air,
 As we marched in the Grand Review.

The tattered flags we bore that day,
 As we marched in the Grand Review,
 Thro' shot and shell had found their way.
 To march in the Grand Review.
 Forgotten then the battle's yell!
 The plunging shot, the shrieking shell,
 For peace had come with us to dwell,
 As we marched in the Grand Review.

And there was Grant and Sherman, too,
 They marched in the Grand Review.
 And Custer bold and Logan true,
 They marched in the Grand Review.
 Now many comrades have marched away,
 Their silent tents but hold their clay,
 But we shall meet them again some day,
 When we march in the Grand Review.

But many years have passed away
 Since we marched in the Grand Review;
 And the dead outnumber the living today,
 Who marched in the Grand Review,
 And tho' our heads are turning gray,
 Our guns and knapsacks laid away,
 We often think of the glorious day
 That we marched in the Grand Review.



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Schneider, Col. Fred

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